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Amendments to the Claims:

Listing of Claims:

1.   (Currently Amended) An improved sheet set compiling method for compiling the seriatim output of printed sheets into sets of multiple sheets, in which multiple sheets are fed seriatim into a compiler from a sheet entry position and stacked therein, and in which a lateral sheet tamping system is provided for laterally tamping said sheets being fed into said compiler from said sheet entry position, comprising;

automatically estimating the height of the stack of sheets being compiled in said compiler, and in response thereto to, and said estimating of the height of the stack of sheets automatically maintaining the height of said lateral sheet tamping system above the height of the stack of sheets being compiled in said compiler by movement of at least a part of said lateral sheet tamping system.

2.   (Original) The improved sheet set compiling method of claim 1, wherein said compiler sheet entry position is automatically raised in proportion to the height of the stack of sheets being compiled in said compiler.

3.   (Original) A sheet set compiler for compiling the seriatim output of printed sheets into sets of multiple sheets, including a sheet input system through which multiple sheets are fed seriatim into said compiler to be stacked therein, and including a lateral sheet tamping system for laterally tamping said sheets being fed into said compiler from said sheet entry position, comprising;

means for automatically estimating the height of the stack of sheets being compiled in said compiler, and

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said lateral sheet tamping system having a variable height and means for automatically maintaining said variable height of said lateral sheet tamping system above the height of the stack of sheets being compiled in said compiler.

4.   (Original) The sheet set compiler for compiling the seriatim output of printed sheets into sets of multiple sheets of claim 3, wherein said sheet input system is automatically raisable relative to increases in the height of the stack of sheets being compiled in said compiler.

5.   (Original) A sheet set compiler for compiling the seriatim output of printed sheets into sets of multiple sheets, including a sheet input system through which multiple sheets are fed seriatim into said compiler to be stacked therein, and including a lateral sheet tamping system for laterally tamping said sheets being fed into said compiler from said sheet entry position, comprising;

a stack height estimation system providing an electrical signal proportional to the current height of the stack of sheets being compiled in said compiler, and

said lateral sheet tamping system having a maximum height adjustment system controlled by said electrical signal for automatically maintaining said maximum height of said lateral sheet tamping system above said current height of the stack of sheets being compiled in said compiler.

6.   (Currently Amended) The sheet set compiler for compiling the seriatim output of printed sheets into sets of multiple sheets of claim 5, wherein said lateral sheet tamping system comprises a pair of opposing and vertically extending pivotal stack edge tampers, and wherein said maximum height adjustment system comprises a the motor driven pivoting of said pivotal stack edge tampers.

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    7.   (Original) The sheet set compiler for compiling the seriatim output of printed sheets into sets of multiple sheets of claim 5, wherein said sheet input system comprises a vertically repositionable sheet feeding nip which is automatically vertically repositioned upwardly relative to increases in the height of the stack of sheets being compiled in said compiler.

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